Application/Control Number: 10/674,483

Art Unit: 1743

inwardly toward respective said closed end. —

Claim 13 (New), **insert**— A plate as in claim 11, wherein said corners each convergently taper towards respective said closed end. —

Claim 14 (New), insert— A plate as in claim 10, wherein said plate body is unitarily formed. —

Claim 15 (New), insert— A plate as in claim 10, wherein said closed ends of said wells are at least partially formed by a separate base portion joined to said side walls.

Claim 16 (New), insert— A plate as in claim 10, wherein said closed ends of said wells are at least partially formed by base portions unitarily formed with said side walls.

Claim 10 (New), insert— A plate as in claim 10, wherein each said rectangular panel is formed with two side edges that extend between said closed end and said open end, said side edges being generally parallel. —

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1, 3 and 5-17 are allowable over the prior art, since the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest a multiwell plate with wells each having four rounded corners convergently tapered towards respective closed ends of the wells.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance." Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Natalia Levkovich whose

Page 3